

Service Section 7 consultation. The results of the biological opinion, in combination with the above findings, will be used in the final analysis to determine whether or not to issue the ITP.

Dated: November 10, 1998.

H. Dale Hall,

Deputy Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 98-30787 Filed 11-17-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[MT-020-1320-00]

Notice of Intent to Plan

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Montana, Miles City Field Office, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to Plan, Spring Creek Coal Company's Coal Lease Application MTM 88405 for Certain Coal Resources in the Powder River Coal Region, Big Horn County, Montana.

SUMMARY: On June 26, 1998, Spring Creek Coal Company (SCCC) filed an application with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to lease a 150 acre tract containing about 19.8 million tons of Federally owned coal reserves near the Spring Creek Coal Mine. On June 3, 1998, Spring Creek Coal Company filed an application with the State of Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) to lease a 479 acre coal tract. The tract, which would consist of three separate state leases, contains an estimated 62.1 million tons of state owned coal.

As Co-Lead Agencies, the BLM and Montana DNRC will prepare one Environmental Assessment to evaluate the impacts of coal mining which would result from leasing the tracts of Federal and State coal.

The lands included in the coal lease applications are located in Big Horn County, Montana and are described as follows:

Federal Lease Tract MTM 88405

T. 8 S., R. 39 E., P.M.M.

Sec. 13: SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$,
SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 14: S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$,
S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$,
NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$,
NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 23: NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$,
N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 24: NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$,
N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$.

150 acres, more or less

State of Montana Lease Tracts

Lease C-1099-XX

T. 8 S., R. 39 E., P.M.M.

Sec. 14: S $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$.

Lease C-1100-XX

T. 8 S., R. 39 E., P.M.M.

Sec. 15: NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$,
N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$.

Lease C-1101-XX

T. 8 S., R. 39 E., P.M.M.

Sec. 23: N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$.
479.16 acres, more or less

This action could amend the Powder River Resource Management Plan (1984) if certain Federal coal leasing unsuitability designations on or adjacent to the Federal coal tracts are changed. The analysis will be based on existing statutory requirements and will meet the requirements of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976 and the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) of 1977.

DATES: Public scoping on the proposal will begin with the date of publication of this Notice and will end 30 days after publication. Any issues, concerns or alternatives should be submitted to BLM December 18, 1998, so they can be addressed in the environmental analysis.

To facilitate the planning effort, two public scoping meetings have been scheduled as follows:

1. December 3, 2 pm, Lame Deer, Montana, Dull Knife Memorial College Auditorium;

2. December 3, 7 pm, Hardin, Montana, Becker Hotel Conference Room, 200 North Center.

3. December 7, 1 pm, Sheridan, Wyoming, Fulmer Public Library, 335 W. Alger.

ADDRESSES: All submissions should be sent to the following address: Bureau of Land Management, Miles City Field

Office, Dan Benoit, Team Leader, 111 Garryowen Road, Miles City, Montana 59301.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dan Benoit, Team Leader, Bureau of Land Management, Miles City Field Office, (406) 232-7001, ext 206.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Spring Creek Coal Company is the lessee and operator of Federal Coal Lease MTM 069782 at the Spring Creek Mine. The proposed lease area adjoins the current lease to the north.

Due to its coal reserve base and configuration, the Spring Creek lease application area is a logical step to extend the life of the Spring Creek Mine. With the current permitted reserves of coal, the current level of production at the Spring Creek Mine can be maintained for approximately 19 more years.

The areas applied for would be mined as an extension of the Spring Creek Mine and would utilize the same methods as those currently being used. The leases being applied for would extend the life of the mine for an additional 8 years beyond what is currently permitted, and enable recovery of coal as a logical extension of the current pits at the Spring Creek Mine.

Dated: November 9, 1998.

Timothy M. Murphy,

Miles City Field Manager.

[FR Doc. 98-30860 Filed 11-17-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DN-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CO-956-98-1420-00]

Colorado: Filing of Plats of Survey

November 5, 1998.

The plats of survey of the following described land will be officially filed in the Colorado State Office, Bureau of Land Management, 2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, Colorado, 80215-7093, effective 10:00 am, November 5, 1998. All inquiries should be sent to this address.

Township	Range	Meridian	Group No.	Approval date
T. 13 S.	R. 85 W.	6	1216	October 1, 1998.
T. 04 N.	R. 84 W.	6	1134	October 13, 1998.
T. 05 N.	R. 92 W.	6	1188	October 23, 1998.
T. 03 N.	R. 75 W.	6	1208	October 23, 1998.
T. 01 S.	R. 78 W.	6	1198	October 26, 1998.
T. 45 N.	R. 03 W.	NM	Supplemental Plat	October 26, 1998.
T. 13 S.	R. 85 W.	6	1216	November 3, 1998.
T. 01 S.	R. 01 W.	UTE	1144	November 4, 1998.